BOX NO. 2 FOLDER NO. 20 WAMH / WAIMF Records

WAMH Constitution n.d.

WAMH Constitution

1.0 Statement of Purpose

1.1 WAMH is operated solely by members of the student bodies of Amherst College and the surrounding four colleges, and persons living in the Pioneer Valley area.

1.2 WAMH exists primarily to serve the Amherst College student body and the remainder of the five-college area

a) as a non-commercial radio station providing entertainment and information to its listeners; and

b) as a forum for interested parties wishing to express points of view in an intelligent and informed manner; and

c) as a means of learning and instructing for both its operators and its listeners.

1.3 WAMH is ultimately responsible to the Amherst College student body, which funds and supports it, and to the Trustees of Amherst College, who hold its license.

2.0 The Composition of the Institution

2.1 WAMH shall be composed of two elements, its staff and its executive board.

2.2 Its staff shall be drawn from Amherst College and the surrounding colleges and towns. Although membership in WAMH shall be offered to anyone, only individuals who have a current FCC commercial license and have passed all prts of the WAMH license exam may operate the station's controls and sign its logs. Staff and, in rare cases, executive board members

may be restricted from the usage of the stations other facilities, such restrictions to be defined by the executive board.

2.3 The executive board shall be composed of the following positions:

a) General Manager

b) Program Director

c) Chief Operator

d) Music Director

e) News Director

f) Sports Director

g) Special Programming Director

h) Business Manager

i) Chief Engineer

j) 3 Staff Representatives

k) Third World Coordinator

Only one person can fill each position. The E-Board must make every effort to find qualified candidates to fill vacant positions. The General Manager may appoint a person to fill such positions in an acting, non-voting capacity. All vacancies will be filled by theE-Board using the standard election procedure.

2.4 Although all executive board meetings are open to all staff members, and the advice and counsel of staff members is to be encouraged and solicited, any and all decisions regarding the maintenance and governance of the station shall derive exclusively from the executive board.

2.5 Each member of the executive board shall have a term of office from January 1 to December 31.

2.6 The executive board officers of one year shall elect the executive board of the following year in the period after

Thanksgiving break and before the end of classes. All presently serving officers are eligible to vote, but present members of the E-Board are not allowed to vote in elections in which they are candidates. The candidate, for powitions contested and uncontested, receiving a simple majority of the votes of the entire Executive Board less those disqualified from voting, shall be elected. All balloting shall be secret. The following is the order for elections to the Executive Board: General Manager, Program Director, Chief Announcer, Music Director, News Director, Sports Director, Special Programs Director, Business Manager, and Chief Engineer. This order holds for contested elections only; all uncontested elections will be decided afterward. All unsuccessful candidates are eligible for as yet unfilled positions. In the event that there are more than two contestants for a position and none receives a majority of votes , then a run-off election shall be held between the two leading candidates. In case of a tie the GM shall not vote in the ensueing run-off.

2.7 The votes of all officers are equal. With the exception of elections, in votes requiring a simple majority, the General Manager shall vote only in the case of a tie. He shall have a single vote in issues requiring a two-thirds majority to pass. Votes are binding only when there is a quorum of those present; a quorum is defined as a simple majority of the total membership of the executive board. If an issue is brought up before three successive executive board meetings, and there is not a quorum at any of the meetings, then the executive board may vote without quorum.

2.8 The executive board shall meet at least once weekly during the school year; extra meetings shall be called and publicized

by the General Manager.

3.0 The Offices

3.1 Any and all decisions regarding the general or long-term maintenance of WAMH shall be made by a simple majority vote of the executive board, with the exception of the removal of an executive board or staff member from the station. Decisions regarding the individual departments are normally to be made by the relevant department heads; however, any decision made by any member of the executive board is subject to challenge by any other member of the executive board, and may be subsequently vetoed by that board.

3.2 The General Manager is responsible for the following functions:

a) He is the titular head of the station; as such, he represents the station to Amherst College and The World.

b) He is responsible for the calling and governance of executive board meetings; he shall also record the minutes of these meetings.

c) He is responsible for the recruitment of executive board members.

d) He is responsible for the filing and inventory of all contracts made by WAMH.

3.3 TheTreasurer is responsible for the fiscal operations of WAMH. He shall represent the station to the Student Allocations Committee, and he shall formulate a budget to be approved by the executive board.

3.4 The Program Director has the following responsibilities:

a) He shall be responsible for the formulation and maintenance of the broadcast schedule;

b) Together with the Chief Operator, he is the chief liason with the licensed operators; as such, he is responsible for their recruitment and discipline. The two are also responsible for training new members in use of equipment, instruction for FCC license acquisition, and compliance with FCC logs. They are also responsible for establishing guidelines for permissible on-the-air conduct, and may dismiss disc jockeys for reasons of incompetence or negligence, such dismissals subject to challenge by the executive board.

3.5 Any and all disputes among the Program Director, the News Director, the Chief Operator, and the Special Programming Director shall be settled by the executive board.

3.6 a) Staff representatives sahll be nominated and elected annually by the station staff. For the purposes of this election, the staff shall consist of the disc jockeys and substitutes, designated by the Program Director and the Chief Announcer and the members of the business, music, news, engineering, special productions and sports staffs, designated by the directors of those departments, subject to the review of the majority of the Executive Board, but shall not include the members of the Executive Board. Election procedure shall be established, and results certified by the executive board. Each staff representative shall have one vote on the Executive Board.

b) Opening of the election for staff representatives will be announced at the first staff meeting of the second semester. The election will be held by secret ballot within one week of this initial announcement.

c) The staff representatives will take office on the sixteenth class day of the spring semester. Their terms will

expire on the sixteenth class day of the following spring semester.

d) It is the responsibility of the Staff Representatives to inform the staff of Executive Board discussion and policy decisions as they occur.

4.0 Removal from Office

4.1 Members are suspended or removed from office after a hearing by the executive board and the vote of at least two-thirds of the executive board.

5.0 Adoption of this Constitution

5.1 This constitution shall be adopted by a simple majority of those currently serving on the executive board.

6.0 Amendment and Abolition of this Constitution

6.1 This constitution shall be amended or abolished by the vote of at least two-thirds of the total executive board.

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